



MINERAL INFORMATION SERVICE

Vol. 10

February 1, 1957

No. 2

MINERAL INFORMATION SERVICE is designed to inform the public on the geology and mineral resources of California and on the usefulness of minerals and rocks, and to serve as a news release on mineral discoveries, mining operations, markets, statistics, and new publications. It is issued monthly by the California State Division of Mines. Subscription price, January through December, is \$1.00.

CALIFORNIA MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1956

The value of mineral production during 1956 in California has been estimated at \$1,495,134,200. This is an increase of nearly 4 percent from the 1955 figure of \$1,439,995,990. The 1956 estimate tabulated below has been prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the California Division of Mines. The final figures will be published in Mineral Information Service as soon as they become available.

COMMODITY	QUANTITY 1956 (est.)	VALUE 1956 (est.)	VALUE 1955
METALS			
Chromite-----	25,000 short tons-----	\$ 2,074,500	\$ 1,834,277
Copper-----	800 short tons-----	670,000	457,298
Gold-----	194,800 troy ounces-----	6,818,000	8,810,795
Iron ore-----	2,375,000 long tons-----	*	*
Lead-----	10,000 short tons-----	3,200,000	2,462,970
Manganese ore and concentrates			
35% Mn-----	5,536 long tons-----	424,000	563,156
35% Mn-----	0 long tons-----	0	638,651
Mercury-----	8,500 flasks-----	2,210,000	2,867,206
Silver-----	966,000 troy ounces-----	874,000	863,582
Tungsten concentrates-----	3,900 short tons-----	14,150,000	16,200,924
Zinc-----	8,100 short tons-----	2,187,000	1,681,656
*Other metals (iron ore, molybdenum concentrates, platinum group metals, rare earth concentrates)-----		21,358,500	15,964,204
Total metals-----		\$ 53,966,000	\$ 52,344,719
NONMETALS			
Borates-----	1,000,000 short tons-----	\$ 29,000,000	\$ 24,357,723
Cement-----	38,000,000 barrels-----	117,000,000	103,793,702
Clays ^t -----	2,920,000 short tons-----	5,130,400	5,027,381
Gypsum-----	1,100,000 short tons-----	2,750,000	3,273,724
Lime-----	210,000 short tons-----	3,465,000	4,372,789
Magnesium compounds-----	70,000 short tons-----	4,480,700	3,894,432
Perlite-----	16,000 short tons-----	128,000	125,113
Pumice, volcanic cinders-----	800,000 short tons-----	1,040,000	1,099,459
Salt-----	1,250,000 short tons-----	6,500,000	6,751,420
Sand and gravel-----	66,000,000 short tons-----	66,000,000	66,351,853
Stone ^t -----	25,000,000 short tons-----	37,447,500	37,893,386
Sulfur ore-----	195,000 long tons-----	**	**
Sulfur (by-product)-----	136,800 long tons-----	3,829,000	3,829,049
Talc minerals-----	170,000 short tons-----	1,584,400	1,552,783
Total apportioned nonmetals-----		\$ 278,355,000	\$ 262,322,814
**Other nonmetals			
(asbestos, barite, bromine, calcium chloride, diatomite, feldspar, fluorspar, garnet, gemstones, iodine, lithium compounds, magnesite, mica, marl, potassium salts, pyrites, ground sand, slate, sodium salts, strontium minerals, sulfur ore, titanium concentrates)			
Unapportioned nonmetals**-----		\$ 39,184,400	\$ 37,396,764
Subtotal nonmetals-----		\$ 317,539,400	299,719,578
^t Less clay sold or used in cement, limestone used in cement, and limestone used in lime.			
Total nonmetals-----		\$ 301,020,900	\$ 282,483,831